discontinued for broad-guage conversion as it was not a viable project;

(b) whether 'the train passes only for one time and it hampers the development of the area and adds to the inconvenience of the people; and

(c) whether Government would start the track as a fulfledged line and from when the facility will be available?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) No, Sir. However, the narrow gauge line between Dabhoi Samlaya has been suspended since 9.7.93 due to breaches.

(b) No, Sir. There are four pairs of daily trains and one pair of Bi-weekly trains running on Miyagam Karjan-Dabhoi section.

(c) The work of restoration of Dabhoi-Samlaya section has been taken up and preliminary works, preparation of plan etc: is in progress. The line is likely to be restored in a period of about two years depending upon availability of resources.

Harassment By the Railway Staff

1924. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the passengers bound to Kerala are being harassed by the railway staff regularly; and

(b) if so, whether Government will take necessary step to prevent such harassment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) No such complaint has been received.

(b) Does not arise.

Revenue Collection of Railways

1925. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the month-wise revenue collection of Railways during 1997-98 till now, zone-wise;

(b) the total market borrowing and repayments made during the above period as against the targeted amount;

and

(c) the estimated deficit in Railway finances in the current financial year so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Information is given in Annexure. *[See* Appendix 184, Annexure No. 61]

(b) The total amount of market borrowing by IRFC during 1997-98 is Rs. 2557.88 crores as against the target of Rs. 2470 crores. Bonds worth Rs. 959.40 crores were redeemed during the year 1997-98.

(c) The status of Railway finances in the current year so far is as under:

(Rs. in crores)

	Target	For April 1998 Actual	Variation
Traffic Earnings	2356.14	2306.63	49.51(Shortfall)
Ordinary Working Expenses	2623.29	2387.58	235.71(Saving)
Net Saving			186.20